

gaining meaningful market access for American manufacturers in exchange. Unless other governments play by the rules and remove barriers to our exports, the U.S. should not acquiesce to their demands by further opening our market—which is already the most open market in the global economy. Unilateral disarmament in the face of foreign protectionist practices is unacceptable, and we must ensure that our trade negotiators do not undermine our industries and our workers.

The Reciprocal Market Access Act would instruct our trade negotiators to eliminate foreign market barriers before reducing U.S. tariffs. This bill would also provide enforcement authority to reinstate the tariff if the foreign government does not honor its commitment to remove its barriers.

This legislation also addresses a serious problem in the current trade negotiating process. Tariff and non-tariff sectoral barriers are compartmentalized, meaning that a tariff item can be reduced or eliminated by our negotiators without securing elimination of the non-tariff barriers that deny U.S. industry access to a foreign market. This legislation would give our government the right to revoke concessions to cut tariffs if our trading partners fail to implement negotiated commitments to eliminate barriers that had initially been identified by U.S. domestic producers for our negotiators.

The principle of reciprocity—the principle on which this legislation is built—is not new. In fact it is a principle that should be essential to any effective trade relationship. Cordell Hull, Democrat from Tennessee and Roosevelt's Secretary of State in 1933, was responsible for bringing this concept into the U.S. and global trade systems with the Reciprocal Trade Agreement Act of 1934. It was this act which formed the basis for the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and the World Trade Organization (WTO). Mr. Hull developed the Act to move away from the negative consequences of the Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act, which raised U.S. tariffs on thousands of imports to record levels. Smoot-Hawley established the United States as protectionist, and provoked a rash of retaliatory measures from our trading partners.

It is no longer the United States that is shutting its markets to foreign competitors. We have the most open market in the world, and continue to find ways to lower tariffs and eliminate market barriers. Yet this policy is often not reciprocated, as American manufacturers find significant barriers to foreign markets while they watch their own domestic market share dwindle. The result is quality American companies are forced to downsize or close their doors for good, and American workers are left jobless.

That is not free trade. Free trade involves a system where American companies are able to compete in markets uninhibited by barriers. It involves a level playing field for American companies and our trading partners. And I have no doubt that if given a level playing field, American companies and American workers can compete in any market.

The Reciprocal Market Access Act will mandate that at the very least any trade agreement does not put American companies and workers at a competitive disadvantage. It establishes what should be the standard for all trade agreements: a mutually beneficial trade relationship in which goods can be freely exchanged and that promotes economic growth.

## IN RECOGNITION OF THE PASSING OF CYRUS BLACKMAN

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 8, 2009*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Cyrus Blackman, a World War II hero and a Northwest Florida community leader who passed away on October 7, 2009. Mr. Blackman spent his life serving his country and his family, and I am proud to honor his lifetime of dedication and service.

Cy Blackman was a native and lifelong resident of Milton, Florida. He joined the United States Army at a young age during World War II, and went on to serve with the 563rd Anti-Aircraft Automatic Weapons Battalion operating trucks to move personnel, equipment, and supplies under extremely hazardous combat conditions. A veteran of combat in much of Central Europe, Cy fought honorably in the Battle of the Bulge and the Battle of the Rhine, receiving the World War II Victory Medal, the American Service Medal, and the European African Middle Eastern Service Medal with three Bronze Stars.

After demobilization at the end of the war, Cy returned to Northwest Florida. He worked at International Paper, where he retired. Despite his service in World War II, for 60 years Cy never spoke of his time in the Army and never requested Veterans Administration benefits. However in 2008, Cy participated in the Emerald Coast Honor Flight, an experience that changed his life. After visiting the National World War II Memorial, he began to open up about his experiences in the war, and later even served as a spokesman for the Honor Flight organization, connecting the community with our veterans.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to honor Cy Blackman as an American hero reflective of the spirit of Northwest Florida. Cy will be remembered as a loving husband and father and as an important part of our community. My wife Vicki and I offer our prayers for his wife, Polly, children, Christopher and Lecia, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren as we remember and honor the life of Cy Blackman.

HONORING DONNA P. JERNIGAN,  
BSN, RN, CRRN, MS

**HON. BOB ETHERIDGE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 8, 2009*

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Donna P. Jernigan of Carolina Case Management and president of the Association of Rehabilitation Nurses (ARN) and a resident of Sanford, North Carolina in my district. Ms. Jernigan will soon complete her year as the 2008–2009 national president of the ARN, a professional organization representing professional nurses who work to enhance the quality of life for those who are affected by physical disabilities or chronic illnesses. During her tenure as president at ARN, Ms. Jernigan has been a strong leader and advocate for rehabilitation nurses, as well as the patients ARN serves every day.

Since 1974, ARN has been the leading source for the latest rehabilitation information, resources, and professional development and career opportunities for rehabilitation nursing professionals. ARN members are nurses, with a broad range of clinical experience, dedicated to helping individuals affected by chronic illness or a physical disability adapt to their disabilities, achieve their greatest potential, and work toward productive, independent lives. Presently, ARN comprises a nationwide network of more than 5,500 rehabilitation nurses who practice in many settings, including hospitals, rehabilitation facilities, home health agencies, sub-acute and long-term care facilities, and private companies.

Ms. Jernigan earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from the California State University and her Master of Science degree in Management, with a concentration in Healthcare Planning, from Troy University. In addition to Ms. Jernigan's academic achievements, she is the author of "Bureaucrats at the Gate," an article published in ARN Network in 2003. She has also given presentations numerous times on topics relating to electronic medical records, surviving the nursing shortage, uniform data systems, and using algorithms in rehabilitation.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the outgoing president of the Association of Rehabilitation Nurses, Donna P. Jernigan, for her dedication and exemplary work in the field of rehabilitation nursing.

A TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT  
GENERAL TERRY L. GABRESKI

**HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 8, 2009*

Mr. TURNER. Madam Speaker, United States Air Force Lieutenant General Terry Gabreski, the highest-ranking female officer in the Air Force, is retiring after 35 years of distinguished and honorable service to our nation.

General Gabreski distinguished herself as Vice Commander of the U.S. Air Force Material Command at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, located in my congressional district, from August, 2005 through January, 2010. During her leadership, she catapulted the Air Force Material Command into one of the most highly efficient and productive organizations within the Department of Defense.

General Gabreski executed over 40 percent of the entire U.S. Air Force budget during her tenure and oversaw the full operational capability of the F-22A.

General Gabreski supported the warfighter, ensuring our forward-deployed operations have the resources they need. She also oversaw the development and deployment of AngelFire persistent surveillance and the reconnaissance program, which was lauded by the U.S. Marine Corps as "war-winning technology." She is also responsible for the Aeronautical System Center's Large Aircraft Infrared Countermeasures (LAIRCM) program, which was established in response to the portable anti-aircraft missile threat to intra-theater airlift.

General Gabreski worked to effectively make sure the Air Force lived within its budget. She radically simplified and streamlined the

Air Force sustainment funding system through the development and implementation of Centralized Asset Management (CAM). These efforts allowed the Air Force to make decisions within constrained funding, enabling warfighters to focus on their primary missions, and established a new level of credibility in warfighter support overall.

General Gabreski was a leader and inspiration to the Dayton community. During her time at WPAFB, she participated in many events, offering advice to women in leadership roles. She is a credit to the Air Force and a source of support and inspiration to many throughout the military and the Dayton community.

As General Gabreski culminates a distinguished career of more than three decades of Air Force service, I appreciate her dedication to her country, her outstanding performance as the highest ranking female officer in the Air Force, and her significant contributions toward strengthening our military.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE CIVIL ACCESS TO JUSTICE ACT OF 2009

**HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 8, 2009*

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, today I rise to introduce the Civil Access to Justice Act of 2009. The purpose of this legislation is to reauthorize the Legal Services Corporation, which has not been reauthorized by Congress since 1977. Legal Services Corporation was established by Congress in 1974 to provide legal assistance to low-income people in civil matters. LSC directs and supervises the federal grants to local legal service providers who give legal assistance to low-income clients.

I am particularly pleased that we are introducing this bill, not only because it helps those in need, but because of my personal experiences with the program. Over 30 years ago, I was the founding Chairman of the Board of Peninsula Legal Aid Center, Inc., so I am aware of the need for resources to make a legal services program fully operational. In this bill, we are seeking to ensure that the Corporation has the resources required to help those in need.

The bill accomplishes several goals. It increases the authorized funding level for LSC to \$750 million. This is approximately the amount, adjusted for inflation, appropriated in 1981, which was the high watermark for LSC funding. LSC is currently funded at \$390 million—which, in current dollars, is well below the amount needed to fully fund the program. Currently, more than 80 percent of individuals who need civil legal representation do not have the means to obtain it. Families who need this assistance the most make less than 125 percent of the poverty line or about \$27,500 for a family of four. Nationally, 50 percent of these eligible applicants for legal assistance from federally funded programs are turned away mainly because these programs lack ample funding. Moreover, as the economy continues to decline, the number of individuals who will need legal representation will increase. We need to ensure that resources are available to provide legal services to those who cannot afford adequate representation.

The \$750 million authorized in the bill should be enough to ensure a minimum level of access to legal aid in every county in the country.

Although the program has not been reauthorized in over 30 years, appropriations bills over that time have placed restrictions on the activities that attorneys in LSC programs can provide. The bill lifts most of these restrictions, including collecting attorneys' fees, permitting legal aid attorneys to bringing class-action suits, and allowing lobbying with non-federal funds. In the spirit of compromise, the bill does maintain the prohibition on abortion related litigation and incorporates some limits on whom LSC-funded programs can represent, including prisoners challenging prison conditions and people convicted of illegal drug possession in public housing eviction proceedings. The bill also provides for more effective administration of LSC.

The Government Accountability Office wrote reports highlighting issues with the governance of LSC. In an August 2007 report, GAO found "... LSC has not kept up with evolving reforms aimed at strengthening internal control over an organization's financial reporting process and systems." That same report stated that "The current board has four committees, but none are specifically targeted at providing critical audit, ethics, or compensation functions, which are important governance mechanisms commonly used in corporate governance structures. Because it has not taken advantage of opportunities to incorporate such practices, LSC's Board of Directors is at risk of not being able to fulfill its role of effective governance and oversight."

Overall, the Civil Access to Justice Act of 2009 will provide relief to those who need civil legal representation. I would like to thank Judiciary Committee Chairman CONYERS and Representatives COHEN, WATT, DELAHUNT, LINDA SÁNCHEZ and HANK JOHNSON for their hard work and dedication to this cause. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor and support this important legislation to ensure that those who need civil legal representation are able to obtain it.

#### ARMY STRYKER FORCE IN AFGHANISTAN

**HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 8, 2009*

Mr. TIBERI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to submit to the RECORD the attached information concerning a constituent and a mother of a soldier that served in Afghanistan.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, October 8, 2009.

Hon. ROBERT M. GATES,  
Secretary of Defense,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SECRETARY: Last month I received a letter from a constituent and mother of a soldier that served in Afghanistan. She was concerned after learning that the 5th Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division (Stryker Brigade Combat Team) had not been authorized the necessary Improvised Explosive Device Detection Dogs (IEDDDs) for its mission.

After forwarding her concerns to the U.S. Department of the Army, I received a re-

sponse from U.S. Army Central Command dated September 30, 2009 from Chief of Staff Colonel Stephen M. Twitty. The response stated "On August 14, 2009, the command submitted an urgent universal needs statement to their higher headquarters, United States Forces—Afghanistan for 75 IEDDDs with handlers for immediate fielding" and that the request was still pending at that time.

It is my understanding that after fifty-six days of operations since the urgent request was made by commanders in the field, the 5th Brigade has yet to receive the necessary IEDDDs. I am concerned that commanders on the ground are not receiving resources they are requesting. Please provide an explanation of the plan that is in place to ensure that our troops on the ground have the assets needed to keep Americans safe and detect IEDs.

If you have any questions, please contact my district director, Mark Bell. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter, and I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

PATRICK J. TIBERI,  
Representative to Congress.

Enclosures.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY, THIRD  
ARMY, UNITED STATES ARMY CENTRAL,  
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT  
CHIEF OF STAFF, G1.

Fort McPherson, GA, September 30, 2009.

Hon. PATRICK J. TIBERI,  
Representative in Congress,  
Columbus, OH.

DEAR MR. TIBERI: Thank you for your recent letter to the Department of Defense on behalf of concerns.

The 5th Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division (Stryker Brigade Combat Team) arrived in Afghanistan in July 2009 and deployed into sector in August 2009 with all assigned mine detection equipment. The brigade is not authorized Improvised Explosive Device Detection Dogs (IEDDDs) or K9 handlers in accordance with their Headquarters, Department of the Army approved Modified Table of Organization and Equipment, dated April 16, 2009. On August 14, 2009, the command submitted an urgent universal needs statement to their higher headquarters, United States Forces—Afghanistan for 75 IEDDDs with handlers for immediate fielding. That request is still pending at this time.

This command stands ready to provide any further assistance required by your office.

Sincerely,

STEPHEN M. TWITTY,  
Colonel (P), U.S. Army, Chief of Staff.

SEPTEMBER 14, 2009.

Re Army Stryker Force In Afghanistan.

SGT MARK BELL AND JASON DOMINGUEZ IN  
PAT TIBERI'S OFFICE.

This last week, Army Stryker Force in Afghanistan was on the news. Their job is to sweep Afghan villages for IED's. They've lost 9 people in the last month. The point made was that they do not have bomb sniffing dogs or metal detectors. I actually watched a soldier trying to visually inspect a mud wall for an IED. This isn't the first time that I've seen such reports on the news or shows about the military.

If my information is correct, then those 9 lives lost cost the military 9 million dollars. This is outrageous. 9 families lost loved ones because their unit didn't have the proper equipment. Do you think that for 9 million, the Army could send dogs for every unit? Do I need to say Da.

I wrote you about the units needing dogs quite some time ago. Apparently, no one paid attention. If you're going to send the military, then you MUST equip them with